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Security Council

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Letter dated 5 June 2008 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1798 (2008), by which the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) until 31 July 2008, and to the Council's presidential statements S/PRST/2008/7 and S/PRST/2008/12 on the same subject.

In the latter statement it was noted, inter alia, that "the continuation of Eritrea's obstructions towards UNMEE has reached a level so as to undermine the basis of the Mission's mandate and has compelled UNMEE to temporarily relocate", and that "the Security Council will, in the light of consultations with the parties, decide on the terms of a future United Nations engagement and on the future of UNMEE". In this regard, I would like to inform you that the temporary relocation of UNMEE military personnel from Eritrea to their home countries was completed on 19 May 2008. I understand that the Security Council is currently conducting consultations on the future of UNMEE, pursuant to S/PRST/2008/12.

Pending a decision of the Security Council on this issue, and in light of the prevailing situation, I would like to propose that the temporarily relocated troops be now considered as repatriated.

I should be grateful if you would bring this proposal to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

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